

Bureau of Land Management

Any Bureau of Land Management (BLM) permittee whose allotment has been affected by a wildfire is encouraged to contact their local BLM Field Office. Contact numbers are as follows:

Fillmore Field Office 435-743-3100

Salt Lake Field Office 801-977-4300

Cedar City Field Office 435- 865-2401

Richfield Field Office 435-896-1500

Henry Mountains Field Station 435-542-3461

Moab Field Station 435-259-2100

Price Field Office 435-636-3600

Vernal Field Office 435-781-4400

Monticello Field Office 435-587-1500

St. George Field Office 435-688-3200

Kanab Field Office 435-644-4600

Grand Staircase-Escalante N.M. H.Q. 435-644-4300

The local office and Rangeland Management Specialist (RMS) assigned to your allotment are the best source of information regarding how and if future grazing on your allotment will be impacted. Additional forage is very limited on BLM lands due to drought, prior restoration practices and this year's wildfires. If you know of areas where forage may be available, contact your RMS and they can take action to authorize the livestock use as appropriate.

Any seeding done as restoration work will require a minimum rest period of two growing seasons. Restoration practices will help maintain your forage base in future years and reduce the likelihood of future fires. Protection fences may be proposed to allow for use of non-burned areas within your allotment. Burned areas that do not need re-seeding will require a minimum one-year growing season rest to assure that desirable vegetation can recover from the fire.

Range improvements damaged in the fire must also be identified and repaired. Be sure to identify these improvements with your RMS and discuss how best to repair them. With your help,

these improvements can be replaced more quickly and efficiently than if BLM resources alone are employed.

Your local BLM office has been requested to look for opportunities to provide forage for displaced permittees due to fire as well as drought. Wildfire and drought conditions are making for difficult times on BLM permittees in Utah. BLM is committed to doing what we can to provide for use of the forage that is available while maintaining healthy range conditions.

US Forest Service

So far this summer, approximately 30,000 acres of National Forest land have burned in Utah. While the acres are small compared to the number of acres burned on land managed by the BLM, the State of Utah and individuals, the impact is no less devastating to the people who depend upon National Forests for their livelihood.

Some of the fires that burned on National Forest will require special restoration efforts to prevent future problems. Burned Area Emergency Response, or BAER, is a program designed to quickly stabilize soil; control water, sediment and debris movement; and mitigate significant threats to health, safety, life, property and downstream values at risk. The local District Ranger's office can provide information on what is proposed for rehabilitation efforts.

Local livestock producers affected by wildfires that have burned over Forest Service grazing allotments and private grazing lands should contact their local District Ranger's office for possible assistance with alternate grazing areas or adjustments in use of unburned portions of grazing allotments.

Phone: (801) 624-5306

Web: www.fs.fed.us/r4

Utah Department of Agriculture and Food--Grazing Improvement Program

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food's (UDAF) Grazing Improvement Program (GIP) has limited funds (up to 50%) available for competitive grants for fence repairs, reseeding of grazing land, and replacement or water development projects.

Phone: (801) 538-4927

Web: www.ag.utah.gov

Utah Partners for Conservation and Development

Utah Wildfire Rancher and Farmer Relief Resource Guide 2007

Qualification for emergency aid may change--Applicants are urged to contact their local office as soon as possible.

This guide is designed to provide Utah ranchers and farmers impacted by the wildland fires of 2007 with some of the information and resources available to them immediately and in the near future.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

The 2007 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Utah Special Wildfire Initiative.

Special one-time funds of \$100,000 for Utah wildfire relief are now available. Additional funds are being requested. Agricultural producers are eligible for a one-time prescribed grazing incentive payment of \$11.00 per acre to assist with the natural regeneration of grazing lands through deferment and exclusion of grazing for one year. The incentive is limited to 2,500 acres per individual or entity.

Applications may be obtained and filed with your local USDA Service Center or conservation district office.

The sign-up window for this special program is August 1 to 14th, 2007. Projects will be ranked August 15-17, and project selection will take place August 20-21, 2007.

Phone: (801) 524-4550

Web: www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov

Utah Cooperative Extension Service, Utah State University

The Utah State University Cooperative Extension Service will be supporting the efforts of the UDAF fire response team. Those affected by the fires will receive information that is currently being prepared to help them make economic decisions. USU Extension will also be holding workshops, in cooperation with other organizations and agencies, to provide economic decision making tools for those not only affected by this summer's fires, but by those affected by the drought. Those desiring information or assistance should contact their local county agent. The University has also established a website where persons wishing to buy, sell, or donate hay or forage can list that information at <http://extension.usu.edu/buysell/>. Other information is being developed and will be posted on the extension web page.

Farm Service Agency Disaster Aid Programs for Agricultural Producers

Crop Disaster Program (CDP)

Currently CDP covers crop losses in excess of 35% caused by natural disasters that occurred in 2005, 2006 and 2007 crops. Producers suffering qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year for which to receive benefits. Only producers with crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits.

Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)

LCP compensates livestock producers for feed losses resulting from natural disasters. Livestock producers may elect to receive compensation for losses in the calendar year 2007 grazing season that are attributable to natural disasters such as wildfires, drought, low runoff, spring frost, hot dry wind, insect infestations, and flash floods occurring during the applicable period. Producers in primary or contiguous counties declared secretarial disaster areas or counties declared presidential disaster areas are eligible. The following livestock operations are eligible: dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, equine, poultry, elk, sheep, goats, or swine.

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

ECP provides emergency funding and technical assistance to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters and for carrying out emergency water conservation measures in periods of severe drought.

FSA county committees determine land eligibility based on on-site inspections of damage, taking into account the type and extent of damage. For land to be eligible, the natural disaster must create new conservation problems.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

NAP provides financial assistance to producers of noninsurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory

or prevented planting occurs due to natural disasters. To be eligible, crops must be noninsurable crops and agricultural commodities for which catastrophic risk protection level of crop insurance is not available.

Emergency Haying and Grazing of CRP

Emergency haying and grazing of CRP acreage may be authorized to provide relief to livestock producers in areas affected by a severe drought or similar natural disaster. Emergency authorization is provided by either a national FSA office authorization or by a state FSA committee determination utilizing the U.S. Drought Monitor.

After authorized by the national FSA office, county eligibility is based on a county FSA committee request documenting a 40 percent or greater loss in normal hay and pasture production and for drought conditions, precipitation levels at an average of 40 percent or greater loss of normal precipitation for the 4 most recent months plus the days in the current month before the date of request. County FSA committees may request emergency haying or grazing for all or part of a county from the state FSA committee using the U.S. Drought Monitor. The state FSA committee may approve emergency haying and grazing on a county-by-county basis if the county is designated as level "D3 Drought-Extreme" or "D4-Exceptional" according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. Under a state committee determination, emergency haying is authorized for a single period up to 60 days. Emergency grazing is authorized for a single period up to 120 days. Emergency haying or grazing is limited to the acreage physically located within the boundary of the eligible county or portion of a county. Under this authority, acreage will only be authorized for a specified time and may end earlier than announced if conditions improve.

For specific program eligibility, benefits, sign-up dates, forms, etc. visit your local FSA office.

Phone: (801) 524-4530

Web: www.fsa.usda.gov/utah/